

# WASHINGTON WILDLIFE AND RECREATION COALITION



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\*Executive Committee

June 27, 2008

King County Council  
King County Courthouse  
516 Third Ave., Rm. 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104-3272

Dear King County Council:

On Thursday June 26, the board of directors of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition endorsed the Openspace Amendment to the King County Charter.

The Coalition is a non-profit citizens group that leverages public funds for new parks, trails and public lands. By advocating for funding for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), an award-winning competitive grant program, the Coalition has secured over \$550 million in state funds for 921 projects throughout Washington State. Many of the twenty-four projects that King County has protected with WWRP matching funds would be affected by the proposed Openspace Amendment.

Like the citizens of Washington, Coalition members care about protecting wildlife habitat and securing public access to parks, trails, shorelines and other outdoor recreation areas. Through the Coalition, businesses like Boeing and the Washington Realtors work hand in hand with nonprofit groups like the Nature Conservancy and the Washington Environmental Council to create a lasting legacy for future generations.

Founded by Governors Dan Evans and Mike Lowry, the Coalition is a diverse, non-partisan group of over 135 organizations representing conservation, business, labor, recreation, hunting, fishing, farming, and community interests.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this proposal. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joanna Grist  
Executive Director

cc: Governor Mike Lowry, Terry Lavender